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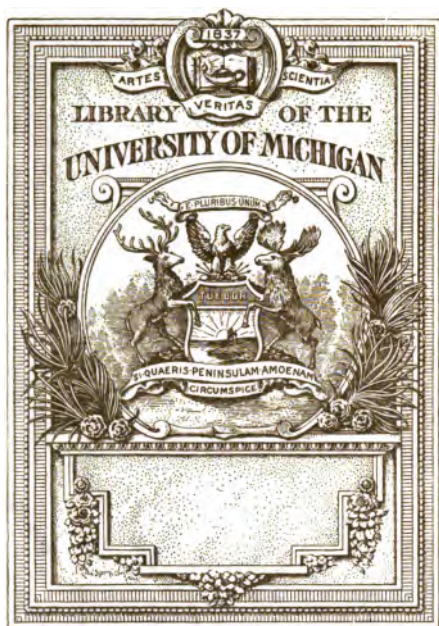
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**IN MEMORIAM  
JOHN L. CADWALADER**



**IN MEMORIAM  
JOHN L. CADWALADER**

**NOVEMBER 17, 1836  
MARCH 11, 1914**



**PRIVATELY PRINTED  
NEW YORK  
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**IN MEMORIAM  
JOHN L. CADWALADER**



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**J**OHN LAMBERT CADWALADER, the late President of the New York Public Library, died at his home in the City of New York on Wednesday, the 11th of March, 1914, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He had served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Astor Library prior to the time of its consolidation with the Lenox and Tilden libraries, and as a Trustee of the consolidated Library from its formation until his death—covering a period in all of over thirty-four years. He became a Vice-President of the Public Library

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upon the death of Bishop Henry C. Potter, and President upon the death of John Bigelow. The time during which he held these two offices was relatively short, but it by no means measures the period of his active leadership in the affairs of the Library.

Mr. Cadwalader was born at Trenton, New Jersey, on November 17, 1836. His father was Thomas Cadwalader, a member of a very well known family of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, which has rendered many services to the nation from the time of the Revolution. His mother was Maria Gouverneur, of Huguenot descent, whose family has been equally well known in the annals of New York. One of Mr. Cadwalader's most recent benefactions—uncompleted at the time of his death—was a memorial to his native place, in the shape of a

handsome addition to the Trenton Public Library.

He naturally entered Princeton, and graduated as Bachelor of Arts in 1856. Four years later, he received from the Harvard Law School the degree of LL.B. Much later in life he was given the honorary degree of LL.D. by Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1913 by Harvard University—a distinction he greatly prized.

Soon after leaving the Law School he came to New York to establish himself in practice, and was for a time associated with the late Dorman B. Eaton. In 1869 Mr. Cadwalader was one of those who were most active in founding the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. In 1874 he was selected by Mr. Fish to be Assistant Secretary of State of the United States in succession to Mr. J. C. Ban-

croft Davis—a post he held until the close of General Grant's term as President. Mr. Cadwalader not only discharged his regular duties in the State Department so as to deserve and receive the commendation of his superior officer, but he distinguished himself in a manner not very common among officials of the government by the preparation of a valuable digest of decisions upon international law, treaties, and kindred subjects.

When he left the State Department, Mr. Cadwalader, after a journey round the world, including a visit to some remote parts of China (much less accessible thirty-seven years ago than now), returned to New York and formed a partnership with the late Charles E. Strong—the surviving member of a highly respected firm of lawyers whose business had been established in this City for generations.

Mr. Strong died in 1897, but the business was continued by Mr. Cadwalader and his younger associates, constantly developing, and absorbing to the very end a large part of his energies. He was not often to be seen in Court, but few men were better known to the Bar of New York. His swift and comprehensive mind, impatient of forms and details, was at its best in dealing with the larger aspects of a complicated situation, and especially in dealing with what may be called the human side of a legal problem. He served as President of the Bar Association for the customary two years (1906 and 1907) and brought his usual vigor and businesslike abilities to its service.

Mr. Cadwalader was never married, but for many years he maintained a house in this City where he received an exceptionally large circle

of agreeable and distinguished people. With his discriminating taste for art, he had collected mezzotints, old porcelain, and old furniture, which lent the house a special charm; and his collection of old and warm friends was no less remarkable. A certain impatience of manner sometimes gave, to those who did not know him well, the impression of a coldness and harshness very far from his real nature. He disliked all exaggeration and all forms of speech not thoroughly genuine, and was never quite at his ease with strangers, so that he often seemed far more reserved and unemotional than he was in reality. He was, in fact, diffident, almost shy; but his unnumbered and unrecorded acts of kindness to those who were in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, were the true index to a very warm heart, which was

only really known to those who were favored by an intimate acquaintance.

No portraiture of the man could be complete which failed to take into account his love of outdoor sport. For years his visits to the Cascapedia river for salmon fishing and to a Scottish moor for grouse shooting, were as regular as the seasons. Even in the last summer of his life, when he was approaching his seventy-seventh birthday, he was no less keen than in his earlier days.

With all his busy professional life, Mr. Cadwalader found time to serve with exceptional efficiency in the management of many public trusts, among them the Zoölogical Society, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the American Museum of Natural History, Princeton University, and the Carnegie Institution of Washington. But the institution to which he gave his



best thought and devotion was the New York Public Library.

He was elected a member of the Astor Library Board on November 5, 1879. For the first ten years of his service, there were few opportunities for any except routine tasks. The means of the corporation were then too restricted to permit of expansion, and the readiness of Mr. John Jacob Astor (grandson of the founder) to make up all deficiencies out of his own pocket, rendered his colleagues chary of proposals which would make further demands on his generosity. Early in 1890 Mr. Astor died, and the Library entered upon a difficult period in its career, for in spite of a liberal legacy under his will, the income of the library was still very far short of enabling the Trustees to meet the just demands of a growing constituency; nor was there much hope of a



successful appeal to the public for aid in conducting and enlarging an institution which, for three generations, had been intimately associated with a single wealthy family. But the time was at hand when larger opportunities for public service were to offer themselves.

The partial failure in the provisions of Mr. Tilden's will for the establishment of a popular library in New York, and the consequent reduction of the funds in the hands of his trustees to a sum then estimated at two million dollars, inevitably turned attention to the possibility of a consolidation of the Tilden Trust with one or both of the existing libraries. The idea found expression in an act of the State Legislature authorizing consolidation, which was passed at the instance of the trustees of the Tilden Trust; but nothing practical was done





until Mr. Cadwalader's attention was directed to the subject more than two years after the passage of the act. With his usual energy and resource he helped to bring together representatives of the three library corporations, and himself took an effective part in the complicated task of reconciling the differing aims and ideals of the three bodies—bodies which had little in common, except a sincere desire to accomplish a great and useful public undertaking.

“Everyone,” said President Taft at the opening of the new Library building, “who has had to deal with human nature knows the difficulty of securing from those who are independent in the control of any organization, however large or small, a willingness to subordinate their own importance and their own freedom by a union of that which is in their

custody, with similiar trusts in the custody of others. To have secured the consent of all the Trustees of the various Foundations, to have obtained the necessary legislation authorizing the union, to have secured from the City authorities the use of this magnificent site, and the appropriation of the money for this magnificent structure, required genius and statesmanship."

It is no disparagement to the efforts of the others who worked with him, to say that Mr. Cadwalader's share in these achievements was vital. Without his enthusiasm, his vision, and his resourcefulness through the whole period of development, it is hard to see how the final result could have been attained. In particular, the success of the negotiations with the City, and the success of the negotiations with the heirs of Miss Henrietta

Lenox (who had certain rights in a part of the Lenox Library property) were chiefly due to his patience and tact.

The legal and financial problems, however, were not, by any means, the only ones to be met. If the enterprise was to be successfully carried through, it was quite as essential to select a fitting executive as to secure land and money. A man of broad views and extensive knowledge, accustomed to public affairs as well as to libraries, and with that practical experience in administration which is the chief qualification for conducting large undertakings, had to be found. Mr. Cadwalader, aided by his brother-in-law and lifelong friend, the late Dr. Weir Mitchell, made a successful search, and is entitled to the credit of bringing to the service of the Library and the people of New

York our late Director, Dr. John S. Billings. Mr. Cadwalader had but a slight acquaintance with Dr. Billings when the latter first came to the Library; but they became close and even intimate friends, opposite as their tastes and characters were in many essential respects. A photograph which stands to-day in the Director's office at the Library, representing the two friends in confidential discussion over a book, delightfully typifies them in their almost daily task of watching over the institution to which they were both so deeply devoted, and to which—in very different ways—they gave so much.

Mr. Cadwalader was chiefly interested, as might have been expected, in the work of the Library as an instrument of learning and research. He had, indeed, been insistent from the first that it should be based upon

the broadest popular foundation, and that it should be so administered as to contribute to recreation as well as to instruction. He was instrumental in arranging for taking over the work of the Free Circulating Library and the other smaller libraries which had received public moneys; and he diligently furthered the arrangements with the City consequent upon the great gift from Mr. Carnegie. But his heart and mind were devoted rather to the growth of the Central Library. One branch of that work in which he took a peculiar interest was the creation and development of a Print Department—following an example long since set by the British Museum. A collector of rare prints himself, he brought knowledge as well as enthusiasm to bear on the subject and enlisted the willing support of men highly expert; and he

thus laid the foundation of what is already an important, and will doubtless become a great collection.

Mr. Cadwalader was always a generous benefactor of the Library. Probably no one but Dr. Billings was fully aware of his liberality, and perhaps even he was not fully informed. A gift of a collection of books on shooting and fishing, and a gift of money for the purchase of old prints, may be mentioned as characteristic. His will and codicils bear witness to his increasing interest in the Library and its work. He had begun by providing for a bequest of money and the gift of the whole of his valuable collection of engravings; but by his codicils he increased the pecuniary gift to four times what he had at first intended. The purchase of old prints and the increase of salaries in the reference department, were the par-

ticular objects for which he directed the money to be expended—objects which appealed deeply to his artistic taste and his quick and intelligent sympathy.

His death leaves a distinct void in the life of the City, for he occupied a unique position. He was the adviser and confidant of a number of persons and associations who relied implicitly on his judgment—not so much on account of extraordinary ability or learning, as because of a singular force of character. His energy and intelligence, his wide knowledge of the world, his independence of thought and speech, his unfeigned indifference to mere money and the outward marks of success, were characteristics that commanded confidence. He exhibited at times an almost feminine sensitiveness and delicacy of perception, but his un-

swerving fidelity to the standards of conduct in which he believed, were extraordinarily robust. He was never inclined to moral compromises. Right was right, and wrong was wrong, and there was an end of it; an unusual trait in an age of weak sentimentality toward sinners. He was deeply interested in large plans for the improvement of the City which had become his home, and his qualities made him one of the creators and builders of those things which adorn and vivify a metropolis. He was an energetic and efficient adviser for the many societies with which he was associated. And many men and women have lost in him a kind and helpful friend.





**THE CADWALADER GIFT  
OF PRINTS AND  
BOOKS**



THE CADWALADER GIFT OF  
PRINTS AND BOOKS

A NOTEWORTHY addition to its print collection came to The New York Public Library by the bequest of the late John L. Cadwalader, consisting of 360 engravings, mainly mezzotints. There are also a number of stipple engravings, noteworthy examples of that graceful art. Among these latter are plates by Bartolozzi, J. R. Smith, F. D. Soiron, and other noted stipple engravers, the "Tea Garden" and "St. James' Park" after Morland, appearing both in black-and-white and in color. Some miscellaneous prints,

notably seven etchings by Rembrandt and three by Whistler, and three engravings by Marc Antonio Raimondi, make up the rest of the donation.

The mezzotints include a number of the most noted examples of the art. T. Watson's "Lady Bamfylde" is here, and James Ward's "Mrs. Billington as St. Cecilia," J. R. Smith's "Mrs. Carnac," Dickinson's "Lady Charles Spencer" and "Mrs. Pelham," Valentine Green's "Lady Betty Delmé," and "Mrs. Tollemache as Miranda," by John Jones, all after Reynolds. And the other mezzotinters of late eighteenth century Britain are likewise worthily represented,—J. Watson, McArdell, Dean, Dixon, Dunkarton, Grozer, Young. In their works are reflected the life and taste of the period, with all the grace and dignity of those days, as they were mirrored by Reynolds and Hoppner

and other painters of the time. There are also a number of mezzotints in color, pictures of rural life and sporting scenes, by W. Ward ("Visit to the Boarding School"), Keating ("Party Angling"), S. W. Reynolds, Grozer and others from paintings by Morland, James Ward, Sartorius and Wheatley. These prints speak of British love of the domestic virtues and of outdoor life, and in the latter respect they represent an interesting phase of the "sporting print."

The donation as a whole reflects the standpoint of a man of taste who collected, not for the sake of completeness in any restricted specialty, but in response to the appeal of beauty, for the possession of choice specimens of workmanship. The result has given the Library a remarkable nucleus for a collection of mezzotints. It is by the coming of such

gifts of prints discriminatingly collected that the Library will eventually have a collection worthy of its aims.

The interest in the arts of mezzotint and stipple engraving, and in the period of art and life of which they formed so characteristic an expression, is echoed and emphasized by various monographs on artists identified with that work. Records of accomplishment in the reproduction of paintings of the time, by means of these processes are found in Davenport's book on "Mezzotints," in special volumes on McArdell, the Watsons, Elizabeth Judkins, V. Green, and S. W. Reynolds, and in others on painters such as Reynolds, Morland, and James Ward.

These came as a part of the gift of Mr. Cadwalader to the Library of such of his books as the Director might choose. They number about 1,000

volumes, and form an interesting and characteristic collection of books on engravings, porcelain, art in general, on fishing and shooting—two sports in which he took a keen and lively interest—and on other literary and historical lines that naturally appealed to a man of his character.







